



# WHY THE MOON?

## THE DAWN OF THE TRUE SPACE AGE LIES AHEAD OF US.

In the not-too-distant future, people around the world will be able to look through a telescope and see evidence of human and robotic exploration on the moon. In 2004, President Bush directed NASA to send humans back to the lunar surface – this time to stay – and to get ready for a journey to Mars. Since then, we've determined what transportation we'll need, set goals for our activities, identified real benefits of exploring the moon, and even started building the spacecraft to get us there. We'll spend 2007 maturing our ideas on the equipment that future lunar explorers will need to accomplish these exciting plans.

## WHATEVER WE DO, IT WILL BE FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND.



### Human Civilization

Extend human presence to the moon to enable eventual settlement.



### Global Partnerships

Provide a challenging, shared and peaceful activity that unites nations in pursuit of common objectives.



### Scientific Knowledge

Pursue scientific activities that address our fundamental questions about the history of Earth, the solar system and the universe -- and about our place in them.



### Economic Expansion

Expand Earth's economic sphere and conduct lunar activities with benefits to life on the home planet.



### Exploration Preparation

Test technologies, systems, flight operations and exploration techniques to reduce the risks and increase the productivity of future missions to Mars and beyond.



### Public Engagement

Use a vibrant space exploration program to engage the public, encourage students and help develop the high-tech workforce that will be required to address the challenges of tomorrow.

# BECAUSE HUMANS EXPLORE

*"The earth is the cradle of mind,  
but one cannot forever live in a cradle."*

– Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, 1896